PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An actuator comprising:

a stator wafer;

a micro-mover above said stator wafer;

one or more stator electrodes protruding from a section of a stator wafer surface wherein said section of said stator wafer surface is a substantially flat, continuous plane that is closest to said micro-mover, and wherein said one or more stator electrodes protrude from the same flat, continuous plane on said stator wafer surface;

one or more actuator electrodes protruding from a section of a micro-mover surface wherein said section of said micro-mover surface is a substantially flat, continuous plane that is closest to said stator wafer, and wherein said one or more micro-mover electrodes protrude from the same flat, continuous plane on said micro-mover surface; and

one or more bumpers positioned on said stator wafer surface or said micro-mover surface or both surfaces, wherein the number of the bumpers on each surface is equal to, or smaller than, the number of electrodes on the same surface.

2. (Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers protrudes from said stator wafer surface.

4. (Amended) The actuator of claim 2, wherein said one or more bumpers protrudes from said stator wafer surface at least twice as much as said one or more stator electrodes.

5. (Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers protrudes from said micro-mover surface.

7. (Amended) The actuator of claim 5, wherein said one or more bumpers protrudes from said micro-mover wafer surface at least twice as far as said one or more actuator electrode.

8. (Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers comprises at least one of a metal and a dielectric.

21. (New) The actuator of claim 1, wherein one or more bumpers are positioned on both said stator wafer surface and said micro-mover surface.